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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

SENATE—Tuesday, July 17, 2001

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Presiding Officer, the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

God of peace, we confess anything that may be disturbing our peace with You as we begin this day. We know that if we want peace in our hearts, we cannot harbor resentment. We seek forgiveness for any negative criticism, gossip, or destructive innuendos we may have spoken. Forgive any way that we have brought acrimony to our relationships instead of helping to bring peace into any misunderstanding among or between the people of our lives. You have shown us that being a reconciler is essential for continued, sustained experience of Your peace. Most of all, we know that lasting peace is the result of Your indwelling spirit, Your presence in our minds and hearts.

Show us how to be communicators of peace that passes understanding, bringing healing reconciliation, deeper understanding, and hope and communication.

In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CLINTON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, today the Senate will resume consideration of the Bankruptcy Reform Act. The prior agreement called for 3 hours of debate prior to a rollcall vote on cloture of a substitute amendment at approximately 12 o'clock today. There will be a recess for the weekly party conferences from 12:30 to 2:15. We expect to return then to the Energy and Water Appropriations Act today, with rollcall votes on amendments expected throughout the afternoon.

Last week the Senate confirmed 53 nominations. I don't know that there has been a week in recent times where we have accomplished that much with regard to nominations. I expect to continue that level of progress this week. There are currently 10 nominations on the Executive Calendar. Our caucus is prepared to move immediately on 8 of those 10. One of the remaining two, Mr. GRAHAM, already has a time agreement regarding his consideration. I expect to be able to dispose of his nomination between the energy and water appropriations bill, which we will resume after the bankruptcy bill is sent to conference, and the Transportation appropriations bill. I also expect to dispose of the Ferguson nomination at that time.

The legislative branch appropriations bill is on the calendar. The committee

staff has informed us that they know of no amendments. So we hope to be able to complete action on that bill as well this week.

If we can accomplish these items, including the Transportation bill, by the close of business on Thursday, then we will not have votes this Friday. If not, of course, we will then be on the bill on Friday with votes possible throughout the day.

That is the plan for the week. We will do bankruptcy this morning, energy and water this afternoon for whatever length of time it takes. Tomorrow we will do the Graham nomination, then the Transportation and legislative appropriations bills.

This will be a busy week but, I think, a productive week. Hopefully, we can accomplish a good deal by continuing to work together.

BANKRUPTCY ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 333, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 333) to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Leahy/Hatch/Grassley amendment No. 974, in the nature of a substitute.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be 3 hours for debate, 2 hours under the control of the Senator from Minnesota, Mr. WELLSTONE, and 1 hour to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee or their designees.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I yield myself such time as I need from the time allotted to Senator HATCH.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I urge my colleagues to support the cloture motion to substitute the language